MAR 1 4 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Livshits et al.

Art Unit: 1652

Application No.: 09/466,935

Examiner: Steadman

Filing Date: December 20, 1999

Attorney Ref. No.: US-1260

For: NOVEL GENE AND METHOD FOR

PRODUCING AMINO ACIDS

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant respectfully petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) to extend the period for response for filing the Response to the Official Action mailed October 15, 2004, one month(s) to March 15, 2005.

The period for response has previously been extended to February 15, 2005.

Please charge our deposit account 50-3077 the requisite fees for this petition. Also, the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, necessary to maintain pendancy of this application to the same deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

By:

Shelly Guest Cermak Registration No. 39,571

U.S. P.T.O. Customer No. 38108 Ajinomoto USA, Inc. 1120 Connecticut Ave., Ste. 1010 Washington D.C. 20036 202.457.0284

Date: March 14, 2005